

## ABSTRACT

5 The present invention provides a method for removing an oil  
contaminant from the surface of an aqueous solution, comprising manually  
controlling a surface skimmer from a remote location to remove a layer or a  
batch of an oil contaminant from an oil-aqueous solution mixture by the  
skimmer, where the aqueous solution is contaminated by the oil as a result of  
an industrial process. The present invention also provides a system for  
10 carrying out the method, which comprises a surface skimmer, a collection  
means which is preferably a separator, a conduit connecting the skimmer to  
the collection means in an airtight fashion, and means for creating negative  
pressure in the skimmer, where the skimmer is capable of manual control from  
a remote location.